



max planck institut  
informatik

# Spectral Graph Theory

Andreas Karrenbauer

30 July 2021

Recap

Electrical Flow

Effective Resistance

Max-Flow



## Convex Programs

### Definition

Given a convex set  $K \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  and a convex  $f : K \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , a convex program is the following optimization problem

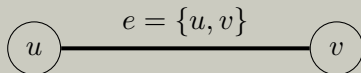
$$\inf_{x \in K} f(x).$$

2 / 20



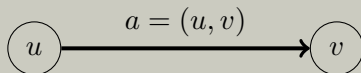
## Undirected Graph

$$G = (V, E), E \subseteq \binom{V}{2}$$



## Directed Graph

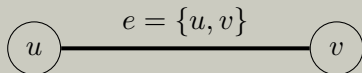
$$G = (V, A), A \subseteq V \times V$$



# Graphs

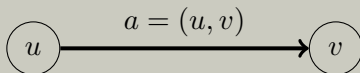
## Undirected Graph

$$G = (V, E), E \subseteq \binom{V}{2}$$



## Directed Graph

$$G = (V, A), A \subseteq V \times V$$



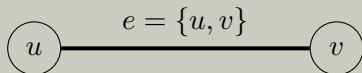
Node-Arc-Incidence Matrix  $B \in \{-1, 0, 1\}^{|V| \times |A|}$

$$B_{v,a} = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if } a = (v, u) \\ 1 & \text{if } a = (u, v) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# Graphs

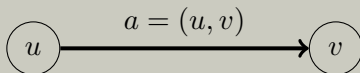
## Undirected Graph

$$G = (V, E), E \subseteq \binom{V}{2}$$



## Directed Graph

$$G = (V, A), A \subseteq V \times V$$



Node-Arc-Incidence Matrix  $B \in \{-1, 0, 1\}^{|V| \times |A|}$

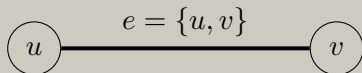
$$B_{v,a} = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if } a = (v, u) \\ 1 & \text{if } a = (u, v) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- W.l.o.g. all considered graphs are connected.

# Graphs

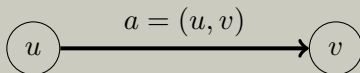
## Undirected Graph

$$G = (V, E), E \subseteq \binom{V}{2}$$



## Directed Graph

$$G = (V, A), A \subseteq V \times V$$



Node-Arc-Incidence Matrix  $B \in \{-1, 0, 1\}^{|V| \times |A|}$

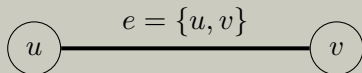
$$B_{v,a} = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if } a = (v, u) \\ 1 & \text{if } a = (u, v) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- W.l.o.g. all considered graphs are connected.
- $\mathbf{1}^T B = 0$ ,  $\text{rank}(B) = |V| - 1$



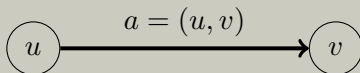
## Undirected Graph

$$G = (V, E), E \subseteq \binom{V}{2}$$



## Directed Graph

$$G = (V, A), A \subseteq V \times V$$



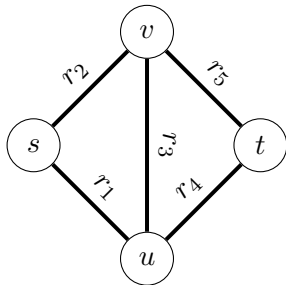
Node-Arc-Incidence Matrix  $B \in \{-1, 0, 1\}^{|V| \times |A|}$

$$B_{v,a} = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if } a = (v, u) \\ 1 & \text{if } a = (u, v) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

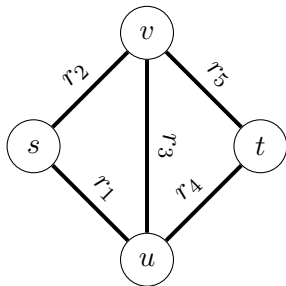
- W.l.o.g. all considered graphs are connected.
- $\mathbf{1}^T B = 0$ ,  $\text{rank}(B) = |V| - 1$
- $\mathbf{1}_v^T B f = \sum_{a=(u,v)} f(a) - \sum_{a=(v,u)} f(a) = f(\delta^{in}(v)) - f(\delta^{out}(v))$



# Electrical Flow Problem



# Electrical Flow Problem



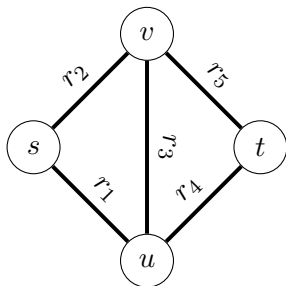
Hamilton Principle: Minimize Energy

$$\mathbf{1}^T d = 0$$

$$\min\{f^T R f : B f = d\}$$



# Electrical Flow Problem



Hamilton Principle: Minimize Energy

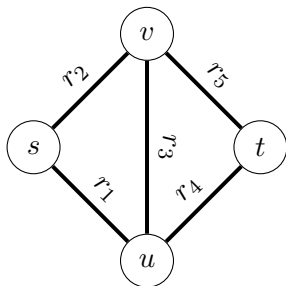
$$\mathbf{1}^T d = 0$$

$$\min\{f^T R f : B f = d\}$$

$$\mathcal{L}(f, p) := \frac{1}{2} f^T R f + p^T (d - B f)$$



# Electrical Flow Problem



Hamilton Principle: Minimize Energy

$$\mathbf{1}^T d = 0$$

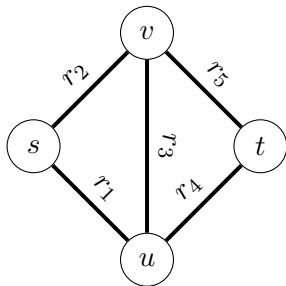
$$\min\{f^T R f : B f = d\}$$

$$\mathcal{L}(f, p) := \frac{1}{2} f^T R f + p^T (d - B f)$$

$$0 = \nabla_f \mathcal{L}$$



# Electrical Flow Problem



Hamilton Principle: Minimize Energy

$$\mathbf{1}^T d = 0$$

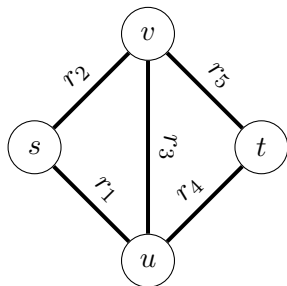
$$\min\{f^T R f : B f = d\}$$

$$\mathcal{L}(f, p) := \frac{1}{2} f^T R f + p^T (d - B f)$$

$$0 = \nabla_f \mathcal{L} = R f - B^T p$$



# Electrical Flow Problem



Hamilton Principle: Minimize Energy

$$\mathbf{1}^T d = 0$$

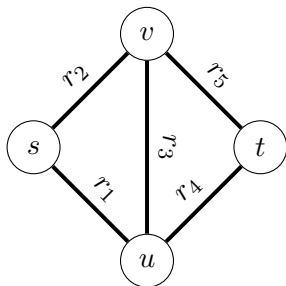
$$\min\{f^T R f : B f = d\}$$

$$\mathcal{L}(f, p) := \frac{1}{2} f^T R f + p^T (d - B f)$$

$$0 = \nabla_f \mathcal{L} = R f - B^T p \Rightarrow R^{-1} B^T p = f$$



# Electrical Flow Problem



Hamilton Principle: Minimize Energy

$$\mathbf{1}^T d = 0$$

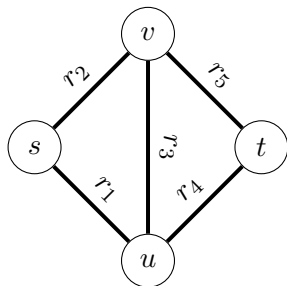
$$\min\{f^T R f : B f = d\}$$

$$\mathcal{L}(f, p) := \frac{1}{2} f^T R f + p^T (d - B f)$$

$$0 = \nabla_f \mathcal{L} = R f - B^T p \Rightarrow R^{-1} B^T p = f \Rightarrow B R^{-1} B^T p = B f$$



# Electrical Flow Problem



Hamilton Principle: Minimize Energy

$$\mathbf{1}^T d = 0$$

$$\min\{f^T R f : B f = d\}$$

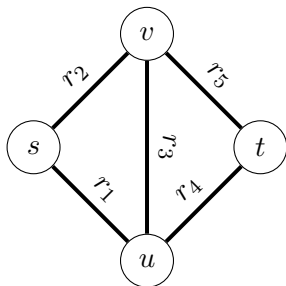
$$\mathcal{L}(f, p) := \frac{1}{2} f^T R f + p^T (d - B f)$$

$$0 = \nabla_f \mathcal{L} = R f - B^T p \Rightarrow R^{-1} B^T p = f \Rightarrow B R^{-1} B^T p = B f = d$$





# Electrical Flow Problem



Hamilton Principle: Minimize Energy

$$\mathbf{1}^T d = 0$$

$$\min\{f^T R f : B f = d\}$$

$$\mathcal{L}(f, p) := \frac{1}{2} f^T R f + p^T (d - B f)$$

$$0 = \nabla_f \mathcal{L} = R f - B^T p \Rightarrow R^{-1} B^T p = f \Rightarrow B R^{-1} B^T p = B f = d$$

$$L p = d$$



# Properties of a Laplacian $L := BWB^T$

1.

$$L_{uv} = \begin{cases} -w(e) & \text{for } e = \{u, v\} \in E \\ \sum_{e \in \delta(v)} w(e) & \text{for } u = v \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



# Properties of a Laplacian $L := BWB^T$

1.

$$L_{uv} = \begin{cases} -w(e) & \text{for } e = \{u, v\} \in E \\ \sum_{e \in \delta(v)} w(e) & \text{for } u = v \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

2.  $L^T = BWB^T = L$



# Properties of a Laplacian $L := BWB^T$

1.

$$L_{uv} = \begin{cases} -w(e) & \text{for } e = \{u, v\} \in E \\ \sum_{e \in \delta(v)} w(e) & \text{for } u = v \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

2.  $L^T = BWB^T = L$

3.  $L\mathbf{1} = BWB^T\mathbf{1}$



# Properties of a Laplacian $L := BWB^T$

1.

$$L_{uv} = \begin{cases} -w(e) & \text{for } e = \{u, v\} \in E \\ \sum_{e \in \delta(v)} w(e) & \text{for } u = v \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

2.  $L^T = BWB^T = L$

3.  $L\mathbf{1} = BWB^T\mathbf{1} = 0$



# Properties of a Laplacian $L := BWB^T$

1.

$$L_{uv} = \begin{cases} -w(e) & \text{for } e = \{u, v\} \in E \\ \sum_{e \in \delta(v)} w(e) & \text{for } u = v \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

2.  $L^T = BWB^T = L$

3.  $L\mathbf{1} = BWB^T\mathbf{1} = 0$

4.  $p^T L p$



# Properties of a Laplacian $L := BWB^T$

1.

$$L_{uv} = \begin{cases} -w(e) & \text{for } e = \{u, v\} \in E \\ \sum_{e \in \delta(v)} w(e) & \text{for } u = v \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

2.  $L^T = BWB^T = L$

3.  $L\mathbf{1} = BWB^T\mathbf{1} = 0$

4.  $p^T L p = p^T B W B^T p$



# Properties of a Laplacian $L := BWB^T$

1.

$$L_{uv} = \begin{cases} -w(e) & \text{for } e = \{u, v\} \in E \\ \sum_{e \in \delta(v)} w(e) & \text{for } u = v \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

2.  $L^T = BWB^T = L$

3.  $L\mathbf{1} = BWB^T\mathbf{1} = 0$

4.  $p^T L p = p^T B W B^T p = \sum_{\{u,v\} \in E} w(u,v) \cdot (p_v - p_u)^2$





# Properties of a Laplacian $L := BWB^T$

1.

$$L_{uv} = \begin{cases} -w(e) & \text{for } e = \{u, v\} \in E \\ \sum_{e \in \delta(v)} w(e) & \text{for } u = v \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

2.  $L^T = BWB^T = L$

3.  $L\mathbf{1} = BWB^T\mathbf{1} = 0$

4.  $p^T L p = p^T B W B^T p = \sum_{\{u,v\} \in E} w(u,v) \cdot (p_v - p_u)^2 \geq 0$



# Properties of a Laplacian $L := BWB^T$

1.

$$L_{uv} = \begin{cases} -w(e) & \text{for } e = \{u, v\} \in E \\ \sum_{e \in \delta(v)} w(e) & \text{for } u = v \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

2.  $L^T = BWB^T = L$

3.  $L\mathbf{1} = BWB^T\mathbf{1} = 0$

4.  $p^T L p = p^T B W B^T p = \sum_{\{u,v\} \in E} w(u,v) \cdot (p_v - p_u)^2 \geq 0$

5.  $L = U \Lambda U^T$



# Properties of a Laplacian $L := BWB^T$

1.

$$L_{uv} = \begin{cases} -w(e) & \text{for } e = \{u, v\} \in E \\ \sum_{e \in \delta(v)} w(e) & \text{for } u = v \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

2.  $L^T = BWB^T = L$

3.  $L\mathbf{1} = BWB^T\mathbf{1} = 0$

4.  $p^T L p = p^T B W B^T p = \sum_{\{u,v\} \in E} w(u,v) \cdot (p_v - p_u)^2 \geq 0$

5.  $L = U \Lambda U^T, \quad U^T U = U U^T = I$



# Properties of a Laplacian $L := BWB^T$

1.

$$L_{uv} = \begin{cases} -w(e) & \text{for } e = \{u, v\} \in E \\ \sum_{e \in \delta(v)} w(e) & \text{for } u = v \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

2.  $L^T = BWB^T = L$

3.  $L\mathbf{1} = BWB^T\mathbf{1} = 0$

4.  $p^T L p = p^T B W B^T p = \sum_{\{u,v\} \in E} w(u,v) \cdot (p_v - p_u)^2 \geq 0$

5.  $L = U \Lambda U^T$ ,  $U^T U = U U^T = I$ ,  $\Lambda = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$



# Properties of a Laplacian $L := BWB^T$

1.

$$L_{uv} = \begin{cases} -w(e) & \text{for } e = \{u, v\} \in E \\ \sum_{e \in \delta(v)} w(e) & \text{for } u = v \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

2.  $L^T = BWB^T = L$

3.  $L\mathbf{1} = BWB^T\mathbf{1} = 0$

4.  $p^T L p = p^T B W B^T p = \sum_{\{u,v\} \in E} w(u,v) \cdot (p_v - p_u)^2 \geq 0$

5.  $L = U \Lambda U^T$ ,  $U^T U = U U^T = I$ ,  $\Lambda = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ ,  
 $0 = \lambda_1 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n$



## Moore-Penrose Inverse of a Laplacian

Let  $Lu_i = \lambda u_i$  for  $i \in [n]$  with  $u_i^T u_j = \delta_{ij}$  and  $\lambda_1 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n$ . The matrix

$$L^+ := \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{\lambda_i} u_i u_i^T$$

satisfies the Moore-Penrose conditions:

1.  $LL^+L = L$

3.  $(LL^+)^T = LL^+$

2.  $L^+LL^+ = L^+$

4.  $(L^+L)^T = L^+L$



## Moore-Penrose Inverse of a Laplacian

Let  $Lu_i = \lambda u_i$  for  $i \in [n]$  with  $u_i^T u_j = \delta_{ij}$  and  $\lambda_1 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n$ . The matrix

$$L^+ := \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{\lambda_i} u_i u_i^T$$

satisfies the Moore-Penrose conditions:

1.  $LL^+L = L$
2.  $L^+LL^+ = L^+$
3.  $(LL^+)^T = LL^+$
4.  $(L^+L)^T = L^+L$

$\hat{p} := L^+d$  satisfies  $Lp = d$ :



## Moore-Penrose Inverse of a Laplacian

Let  $Lu_i = \lambda u_i$  for  $i \in [n]$  with  $u_i^T u_j = \delta_{ij}$  and  $\lambda_1 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n$ . The matrix

$$L^+ := \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{\lambda_i} u_i u_i^T$$

satisfies the Moore-Penrose conditions:

1.  $LL^+L = L$
2.  $L^+LL^+ = L^+$
3.  $(LL^+)^T = LL^+$
4.  $(L^+L)^T = L^+L$

$\hat{p} := L^+d$  satisfies  $L\hat{p} = d$ :

$$L\hat{p}$$



## Moore-Penrose Inverse of a Laplacian

Let  $Lu_i = \lambda u_i$  for  $i \in [n]$  with  $u_i^T u_j = \delta_{ij}$  and  $\lambda_1 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n$ . The matrix

$$L^+ := \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{\lambda_i} u_i u_i^T$$

satisfies the Moore-Penrose conditions:

1.  $LL^+L = L$
2.  $L^+LL^+ = L^+$
3.  $(LL^+)^T = LL^+$
4.  $(L^+L)^T = L^+L$

$\hat{p} := L^+d$  satisfies  $L\hat{p} = d$ :

$$L\hat{p} = \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{\lambda_i} Lu_i u_i^T d$$

## Moore-Penrose Inverse of a Laplacian

Let  $Lu_i = \lambda u_i$  for  $i \in [n]$  with  $u_i^T u_j = \delta_{ij}$  and  $\lambda_1 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n$ . The matrix

$$L^+ := \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{\lambda_i} u_i u_i^T$$

satisfies the Moore-Penrose conditions:

1.  $LL^+L = L$
2.  $L^+LL^+ = L^+$
3.  $(LL^+)^T = LL^+$
4.  $(L^+L)^T = L^+L$

$\hat{p} := L^+d$  satisfies  $L\hat{p} = d$ :

$$L\hat{p} = \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{\lambda_i} Lu_i u_i^T d = \sum_{i=2}^n u_i u_i^T d$$

## Moore-Penrose Inverse of a Laplacian

Let  $Lu_i = \lambda u_i$  for  $i \in [n]$  with  $u_i^T u_j = \delta_{ij}$  and  $\lambda_1 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n$ . The matrix

$$L^+ := \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{\lambda_i} u_i u_i^T$$

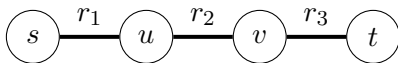
satisfies the Moore-Penrose conditions:

1.  $LL^+L = L$
2.  $L^+LL^+ = L^+$
3.  $(LL^+)^T = LL^+$
4.  $(L^+L)^T = L^+L$

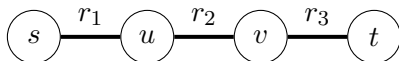
$\hat{p} := L^+d$  satisfies  $L\hat{p} = d$ :

$$L\hat{p} = \sum_{i=2}^n \frac{1}{\lambda_i} Lu_i u_i^T d = \sum_{i=2}^n u_i u_i^T d = (I - \mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}^T) d = d$$

# Simple Example: Path

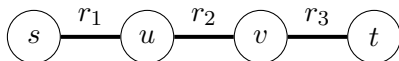


# Simple Example: Path



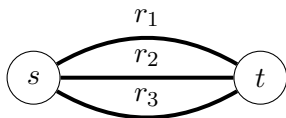
- $Bf = \mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s$  has the unique solution  $\hat{f} = \mathbf{1}$  with objective value  $tr(R)$ .

# Simple Example: Path

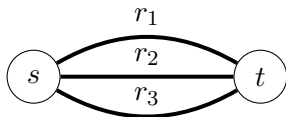


- $Bf = \mathbb{1}_t - \mathbb{1}_s$  has the unique solution  $\hat{f} = \mathbb{1}$  with objective value  $tr(R)$ .
- This is equivalent to contracting the path to a single edge with resistance  $tr(R)$ , which is called the *effective resistance* between  $s$  and  $t$ .

# Effective Resistance of Parallel Edges



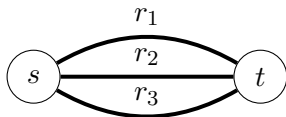
# Effective Resistance of Parallel Edges



- $r_i \hat{f}_i = \hat{p}_t - \hat{p}_s$  for all  $i \in [m]$

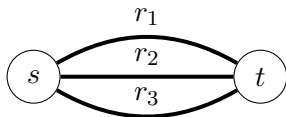


# Effective Resistance of Parallel Edges



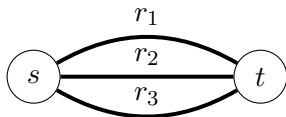
- $r_i \hat{f}_i = \hat{p}_t - \hat{p}_s$  for all  $i \in [m]$
- $\sum_{i=1}^m r_i \hat{f}_i^2$

# Effective Resistance of Parallel Edges



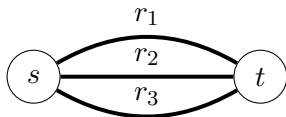
- $r_i \hat{f}_i = \hat{p}_t - \hat{p}_s$  for all  $i \in [m]$
- $\sum_{i=1}^m r_i \hat{f}_i^2 = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(\hat{p}_t - \hat{p}_s)^2}{r_i}$

# Effective Resistance of Parallel Edges



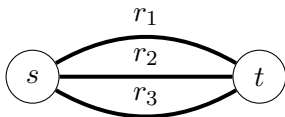
- $r_i \hat{f}_i = \hat{p}_t - \hat{p}_s$  for all  $i \in [m]$
- $\sum_{i=1}^m r_i \hat{f}_i^2 = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(\hat{p}_t - \hat{p}_s)^2}{r_i} = (\hat{p}_t - \hat{p}_s)^2 \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1}{r_i}$

# Effective Resistance of Parallel Edges



- $r_i \hat{f}_i = \hat{p}_t - \hat{p}_s$  for all  $i \in [m]$
- $\sum_{i=1}^m r_i \hat{f}_i^2 = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(\hat{p}_t - \hat{p}_s)^2}{r_i} = (\hat{p}_t - \hat{p}_s)^2 \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1}{r_i} = \frac{(\hat{p}_t - \hat{p}_s)^2}{R_{eff}(s,t)}$

# Effective Resistance of Parallel Edges



- $r_i \hat{f}_i = \hat{p}_t - \hat{p}_s$  for all  $i \in [m]$
- $\sum_{i=1}^m r_i \hat{f}_i^2 = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{(\hat{p}_t - \hat{p}_s)^2}{r_i} = (\hat{p}_t - \hat{p}_s)^2 \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1}{r_i} = \frac{(\hat{p}_t - \hat{p}_s)^2}{R_{eff}(s,t)}$
- This is equivalent to substituting the parallel edges by a single edge with effective resistance  $R_{eff}(s,t)$  where  $\frac{1}{R_{eff}(s,t)} = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{1}{r_i}$ .



# Effective Resistances

$$R_{eff}(s, t) := \min\{f^T R f : Bf = \mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s\}$$



$$R_{eff}(s, t) := \min\{f^T R f : Bf = \mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s\} = \hat{f}^T R \hat{f}$$



# Effective Resistances

$$R_{eff}(s, t) := \min\{f^T R f : Bf = \mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s\} = \hat{f}^T R \hat{f} = \sum_{e \in E} r_e \hat{f}_e^2$$





# Effective Resistances

$$\begin{aligned} R_{eff}(s, t) &:= \min\{f^T R f : Bf = \mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s\} = \hat{f}^T R \hat{f} = \sum_{e \in E} r_e \hat{f}_e^2 \\ &= \hat{p}^T B R^{-1} R R^{-1} B^T \hat{p} \end{aligned}$$



# Effective Resistances

$$\begin{aligned} R_{eff}(s, t) &:= \min\{f^T R f : Bf = \mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s\} = \hat{f}^T R \hat{f} = \sum_{e \in E} r_e \hat{f}_e^2 \\ &= \hat{p}^T B R^{-1} R R^{-1} B^T \hat{p} = \hat{p}^T L \hat{p} \end{aligned}$$



# Effective Resistances

$$\begin{aligned}R_{eff}(s, t) &:= \min\{f^T R f : Bf = \mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s\} = \hat{f}^T R \hat{f} = \sum_{e \in E} r_e \hat{f}_e^2 \\ &= \hat{p}^T B R^{-1} R R^{-1} B^T \hat{p} = \hat{p}^T L \hat{p} \\ &= (\mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s)^T L^+ L L^+ (\mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s)\end{aligned}$$



# Effective Resistances

$$\begin{aligned}R_{eff}(s, t) &:= \min\{f^T R f : Bf = \mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s\} = \hat{f}^T R \hat{f} = \sum_{e \in E} r_e \hat{f}_e^2 \\ &= \hat{p}^T B R^{-1} R R^{-1} B^T \hat{p} = \hat{p}^T L \hat{p} \\ &= (\mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s)^T L^+ L L^+ (\mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s) = (\mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s)^T L^+ (\mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s)\end{aligned}$$



# Effective Resistances

$$\begin{aligned}R_{eff}(s, t) &:= \min\{f^T R f : Bf = \mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s\} = \hat{f}^T R \hat{f} = \sum_{e \in E} r_e \hat{f}_e^2 \\ &= \hat{p}^T B R^{-1} R R^{-1} B^T \hat{p} = \hat{p}^T L \hat{p} \\ &= (\mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s)^T L^+ L L^+ (\mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s) = (\mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s)^T L^+ (\mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s) \\ &= (\mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s)^T \hat{p}\end{aligned}$$



# Effective Resistances

$$\begin{aligned}R_{eff}(s, t) &:= \min\{f^T R f : Bf = \mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s\} = \hat{f}^T R \hat{f} = \sum_{e \in E} r_e \hat{f}_e^2 \\ &= \hat{p}^T B R^{-1} R R^{-1} B^T \hat{p} = \hat{p}^T L \hat{p} \\ &= (\mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s)^T L^+ L L^+ (\mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s) = (\mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s)^T L^+ (\mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s) \\ &= (\mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s)^T \hat{p} = \hat{p}_t - \hat{p}_s\end{aligned}$$



# Effective Resistances

$$\begin{aligned}R_{eff}(s, t) &:= \min\{f^T R f : Bf = \mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s\} = \hat{f}^T R \hat{f} = \sum_{e \in E} r_e \hat{f}_e^2 \\ &= \hat{p}^T B R^{-1} R R^{-1} B^T \hat{p} = \hat{p}^T L \hat{p} \\ &= (\mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s)^T L^+ L L^+ (\mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s) = (\mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s)^T L^+ (\mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s) \\ &= (\mathbf{1}_t - \mathbf{1}_s)^T \hat{p} = \hat{p}_t - \hat{p}_s\end{aligned}$$

$R_{eff}$  is a distance

1.  $R_{eff}(s, t) \geq 0$
2.  $R_{eff}(s, t) = 0 \Leftrightarrow s = t$
3.  $R_{eff}(s, t) = R_{eff}(t, s)$
4.  $R_{eff}(s, t) \leq R_{eff}(s, v) + R_{eff}(v, t)$



# Eigenvalue Bounds for the Electrical Energy

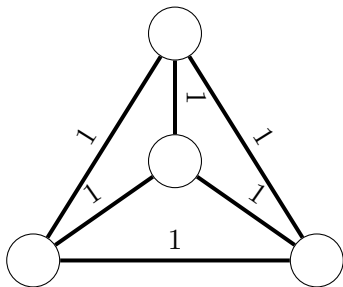
Let  $d \in \mathbb{R}^n$  with  $\mathbf{1}^T d = 0$  and  $\hat{p} = L^+ d$

$$\frac{\|d\|_2^2}{\lambda_n} \leq \hat{p}^T L \hat{p} \leq \frac{\|d\|_2^2}{\lambda_2}$$

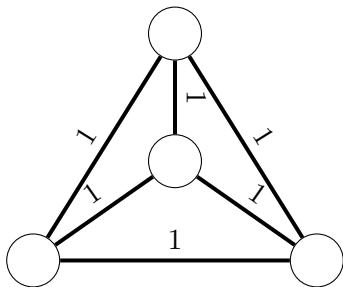




# Example: Unweighted Complete Graph



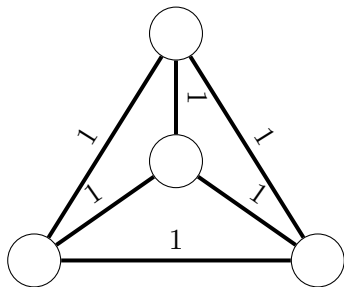
# Example: Unweighted Complete Graph



Laplacian

$$L = nI - \mathbb{1}\mathbb{1}^T$$

# Example: Unweighted Complete Graph

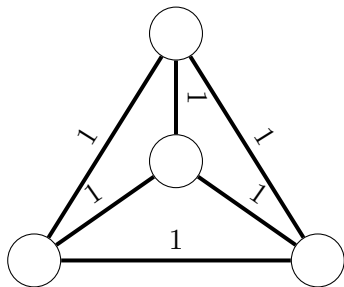


## Laplacian

$$L = nI - \mathbb{1}\mathbb{1}^T$$

has eigenvalues  $\lambda_1 = 0$ ,  $\lambda_2 = \dots = \lambda_n = n$

# Example: Unweighted Complete Graph

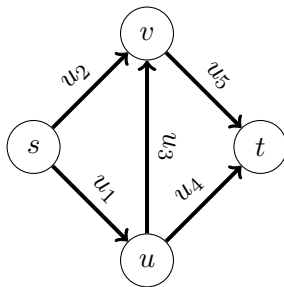


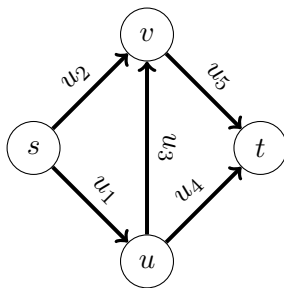
## Laplacian

$$L = nI - \mathbb{1}\mathbb{1}^T$$

has eigenvalues  $\lambda_1 = 0$ ,  $\lambda_2 = \dots = \lambda_n = n$

Energy dissipation of  $d$  is  $\|d\|_2^2/n$

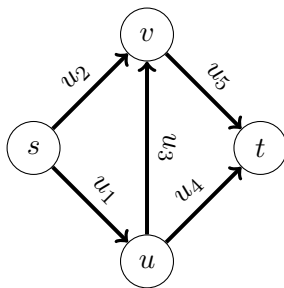




Directed Graph  $G = (V, A)$ , distinct  $s, t \in v, u \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^m$

Augment  $G$  by an arc  $(t, s)$  with infinite capacity to obtain  $\hat{G}$ .

$$F := \max\{\hat{f}(t, s) : \hat{B}\hat{f} = 0, 0 \leq \hat{f} \leq \hat{u}\}$$



Directed Graph  $G = (V, A)$ , distinct  $s, t \in v, u \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^m$

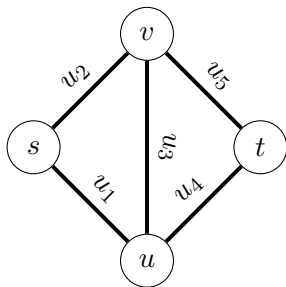
Augment  $G$  by an arc  $(t, s)$  with infinite capacity to obtain  $\hat{G}$ .

$$F := \max\{\hat{f}(t, s) : \hat{B}\hat{f} = 0, 0 \leq \hat{f} \leq \hat{u}\}$$

Can be solved by Interior Point Methods

using electrical flow as a subroutine.

# Undirected Max-Flow

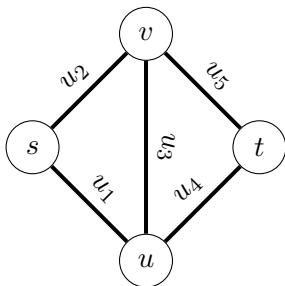


Undirected Graph  $G = (V, E)$ , distinct  $s, t \in v, u \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^m$

$$F := \max\{\hat{f}(t, s) : Bf^+ - Bf^- = \hat{f}(t, s) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{(s,t)}, 0 \leq f^+, f^- \leq u\}$$



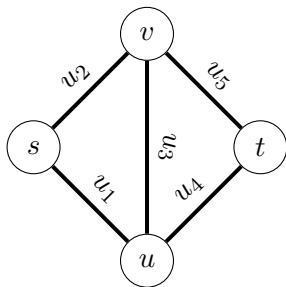
# Undirected Max-Flow



Undirected Graph  $G = (V, E)$ , distinct  $s, t \in v, u \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^m$

$$F := \max\{\hat{f}(t, s) : Bf^+ - Bf^- = \hat{f}(t, s) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{(s,t)}, 0 \leq f^+, f^- \leq u\}$$
$$= \max\{\hat{f}(t, s) : Bf = \hat{f}(t, s) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{(s,t)}, |f_e/u_e| \leq 1 \forall e \in E\}$$

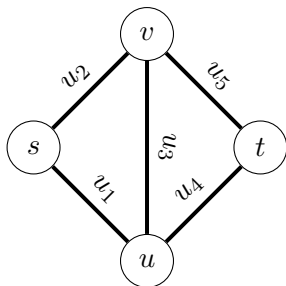
# Undirected Max-Flow



Undirected Graph  $G = (V, E)$ , distinct  $s, t \in v, u \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^m$

$$\begin{aligned} F &:= \max\{\hat{f}(t, s) : Bf^+ - Bf^- = \hat{f}(t, s) \cdot \mathbb{1}_{(s,t)}, 0 \leq f^+, f^- \leq u\} \\ &= \max\{\hat{f}(t, s) : Bf = \hat{f}(t, s) \cdot \mathbb{1}_{(s,t)}, |f_e/u_e| \leq 1 \forall e \in E\} \\ &= \max\{\hat{f}(t, s) : Bf = \hat{f}(t, s) \cdot \mathbb{1}_{(s,t)}, \|U^{-1}f\|_\infty \leq 1\} \end{aligned}$$

# Undirected Max-Flow



Undirected Graph  $G = (V, E)$ , distinct  $s, t \in v, u \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^m$

$$F := \max\{\hat{f}(t, s) : Bf = \hat{f}(t, s) \cdot \mathbf{1}_{(s,t)}, \|U^{-1}f\|_\infty \leq 1\}$$

Reciprocal problem: Congestion Minimization

$$1/F = \min\{\|U^{-1}f\|_\infty : Bf = \mathbf{1}_{(s,t)}\}$$

